

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 IO-10 SAM-01 NIC-01 ERDA-05 ERDE-00

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P R 061755Z MAR 75
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0482
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE
CINCLANT
USCINCUSAREUR
CINCUSNAVEUR
CINCUSAFAE
ALL NATO CAPITALS 5094
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USLOSACLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 1243

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
SUBJ: MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE: LONG RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT

REF: A. USNATO 1134; B. USNATO 0460; C. STATE 022506;
D. US CONTRIBUTION TO THE FORMULATION OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE,
DEC 3, 1974 (NOTAL); E. STATE 035746; F. USNATO 0950

INTERNATIONAL STAFF (IS) HAS CIRCULATED SECTION ON "LONG RANGE
DEFENSE CONCEPT" AS ADDENDUM TO DRAFT MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE
(REF A, PARAS 3-8). IS USED LANGUAGE WHICH MISSION FURNISHED,
DRAWING ON REFS B, C, D, AND E AND REPS' COMMENTS DURING
FEBRUARY 19 DEFENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING (REF F). TEXT
FOLLOWS.
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BEGIN TEXT:
"LONG RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT

3. PREVIOUS MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS HAVE ADDRESSED

THE SEVEN-YEAR PERIOD COVERED BY NATO FORCE GOALS. THIS DOCUMENT ESTABLISHES LONGER TERM OBJECTIVES FOR NATO DETERRENT AND DEFENSE FORCES AND SETS OUT MEANS FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENT. IN SO DOING, IT PROVIDES A CENTRAL DIRECTION FOR COLLECTIVE ALLIANCE FORCE PLANNING WHICH TAKES INTO ACCOUNT BOTH THE VASTLY INCREASED COSTS OF MILITARY MANPOWER AND EQUIPMENT AND THE LENGTHENED TIME SCALES FOR DEVELOPMENT AND DEPLOYMENT OF SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS SYSTEMS. EQUALLY IMPORTANT, THE LONG RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT OFFERS ALLIED PUBLICS AND PARLIAMENTS AN ADEQUATE BASIS FOR EVALUATING NATO'S NATIONAL AND COLLECTIVE SECURITY PROGRAMS.

4. THE ESSENCE OF THE LONG RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT IS THAT NATO CAN ATTAIN AND MAINTAIN AN ADEQUATE FORCE STRUCTURE FOR DETERRENCE AND DEFENSE IF NATIONAL FORCES WORK TOGETHER MORE EFFICIENTLY, IF ALLIES CONTINUE CURRENT LEVELS OF DEFENSE RE-SOURCE ALLOCATIONS (MARGINALLY INCREASED IN REAL TERMS) AND IF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PLANNING AUTHORITIES SET AND APPLY RIGOROUS PRIORITIES FOR FORCE IMPROVEMENTS.

5. THE LONG RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT SUPPORTS AGREED NATO STRATEGY BY CALLING FOR A BALANCED FORCE STRUCTURE OF INTERDEPENDENT STRATEGIC NUCLEAR, THEATER NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL FORCE CAPABILITIES. EACH ELEMENT OF THIS TRIAD PERFORMS A UNIQUE ROLE; IN COMBINATION THEY PROVIDE MUTUAL SUPPORT AND REINFORCEMENT. NO SINGLE ELEMENT OF THE TRIAD CAN SUBSTITUTE FOR ANOTHER.

6. THE LONG RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT PLACES MAJOR EMPHASIS ON MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING ALLIANCE CONVENTIONAL FORCES. NATO ALREADY HAS ACHIEVED A LARGE MEASURE OF SUCCESS IN THIS REGARD; ALLIES HAVE FIELDED THE BASIC INGREDIENTS FOR A STALWART CONVENTIONAL DEFENSE. UNLIKE THE SITUATIONS WITH STRATEGIC AND THEATER NUCLEAR WEAPONS, HOWEVER, OBJECTIVE DISPARITIES BETWEEN NATO AND WARSAW PACT CONVENTIONAL FORCES REMAIN. ALLIES MUST CORRECT THESE DISPARITIES AND PROVIDE A STABLE, LONG TERM BASIS FOR MAINTAINING ADEQUATE CONFIDENTIAL

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CONVENTIONAL FORCES.

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0483

RUEKJCSXSECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

CINCLANT

USCINCUSAREUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCUSAFAE

ALL NATO CAPITALS 5095

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

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7. THE LONG TERM DEFENSE CONCEPT CALLS FOR IMPROVED EFFICIENCIES IN THE USE OF DEFENSE RESOURCES BY THE COLLECTIVE ALLIANCE. INCREASED ALLIED EMPHASIS ON A BROAD RANGE OF COMMON AND CO-OPERATIVE PROGRAMS CAN GO FAR TOWARD OFFSETTING RISING COSTS OF MANPOWER AND COMPLEX WEAPONS SYSTEMS. SPECIFICALLY, ADEQUATE NATO DEFENSE CAPABILITIES OVER THE LONG TERM APPEAR POSSIBLE IF:

(A) ALLIES MAKE STEADFAST COMMITMENTS TO MAINTAIN THE FORCES THEY ALREADY HAVE -- WHETHER FORMALLY COMMITTED TO THE ALLIANCE OR NOT -- AND CONTINUE TO MODERNIZE AND IMPROVE THESE FORCES AND ASSOCIATED COMMON SUPPORTING FACILITIES;

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(B) ALLIES ALLOCATE SOME MODEST ANNUAL INCREASE IN REAL VALUE OF DEFENSE EXPENDITURES FOR THE ALLIANCE (OF THE ORDER OF THE 3-5 PCT IN THE WARSAW PACT). THE PERCENTAGE INCREASE REQUIRED IN EACH COUNTRY WILL VARY IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS CURRENT CAPABILITIES AND ITS ECONOMIC STRENGTH;

(C) NATO AND THE MEMBER COUNTRIES MAKE BETTER USE OF DEFENSE RESOURCES THROUGH:

(I) RIGOROUS SETTING OF PRIORITIES THAT ARE SPECIFIC AND FEW,

(II) REALISTIC RESOURCE GUIDANCE FOR PLANNING THAT TAKES INTO ACCOUNT BOTH THE EXISTING FORCES AND THE PLANS OF MEMBER COUNTRIES, AND

(III) RATIONALIZATION OF FUNCTIONS ACROSS COUNTRIES,
STANDARDIZATION, AND OPERATIONAL PLANNING FOR
THE MORE FLEXIBLE USE OF FORCES -- ALL OF
WHICH REQUIRE GREATER CO-OPERATION WITHIN
THE ALLIANCE.

8. THE LONG TERM DEFENSE CONCEPT IN THIS DOCUMENT SIGNALS
A NEW DIRECTION FOR NATO FORCE PLANNING. IT PROVIDES BOTH THE
FLEXIBILITY TO ABSORB POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL
CHANGES AND THE STABILITY TO PREVENT DANGEROUS, EXPENSIVE
FLUCTUATIONS IN STANDING DEFENSE FORCES. IN SHORT, IT OFFERS
A VIABLE ALLIANCE RESPONSE TO CURRENT POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND
MILITARY REALITIES AND THEIR LIKELY PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE."

END TEXTBRUCE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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THE FORMULATION OF MINISTERIAL

Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: STATE
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